

2017 Program Summary

The E-Reporting with FACTS™ pilot program continued to show strong growth in 2017. Over the last year, the program held 23 training sessions and traveled over 1,300 miles to locations around the bay. With more watermen in the program, there was also a significant increase in the amount of harvest reported electronically.

Here are a few examples of how our participants helped the program grow in 2017:

- There were over 10,000 blue crab and finfish trips reported by FACTS™ users.
- Program participants now represent seven percent of all commercial blue crab and finfish license holders in Maryland.
- Among all commercial blue crab license holders that reported harvest, FACTS™ users represented a higher percentage at 10%.
- Together, our participants harvested 74,190 bushels of crabs (#1, #2, mixed males and females), plus an additional 33,165 individual soft shell and 244,347 individual peelers.
- Of the 2,450,231 pounds of finfish reported, there was 218,903 pounds striped bass and 43,419 pounds of yellow perch.
- 88 percent of all yellow perch harvested in Maryland was reported using the FACTS™ system.
- Feedback from our participants shaped the new Harvest Summary available 24/7 from user accounts. This allows participants to view their harvest history in a whole new way as they are able to create their own individualized summaries.

Our users' voluntary participation over the years has been crucial to the success of the E-Reporting with FACTS™ pilot program. We would like to thank them for their contribution and look forward to another year of their feedback and recommendations!

Please contact **Stephanie Richards**, the E-Reporting Program Coordinator
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if you have questions or need additional Information.